

LIFESTYLES

HAWAII MARINE B SECTION

DECEMBER 1, 2006

Marines and Sailors visit "Lost" survivors

**Story and Photos by
Christine Cabalo**
Photojournalist

HALEIWA, Hawaii —

Four Marines and two Sailors assigned to Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, had a special look at the filming of the television series "Lost," courtesy of Sean Hallock, assistant location manager.

Hallock took the service members to the set of "Lost" on Oahu's North Shore Nov. 20 where the Marines and Sailors met the cast and crew, visited the beach set, and watched as the crew filmed parts of the series.

"We wanted to show them what we do and have them understand there's a lot we put into the show as well," explained Hallock.

Service members from K-Bay were invited to the set of "Lost" where filming of the series takes place in valleys of Heeia.

Hallock said he invited the service members to the set in order to foster a good working relationship with the base and film crew. The day service members visited the set, filming was underway near Haleiwa for upcoming episodes. The visiting service members first visited the pri-

mary beach set where they were allowed to take photographs of the beach huts used for the show.

"I've been watching since the beginning," said Seaman Erik Pack, air traffic controller, Marine Corps Air Facility, Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay. "They just killed off my favorite character Eko, but I like watching Locke too."

The visitors watched as the cast filmed Kate and Sawyer and later met actors Evangeline Lilly and Josh Holloway. Their tour of the set included viewing rehearsals of scenes for future episodes that featured Yunjin Kim, Dominic Monaghan, Emilie de Ravin and Terry O'Quinn.

"We're doing a three-page scene which will take four to five hours to film but will only take up a minute and a half on television," said Hallock during filming. "It's a lot for very little because of multiple takes and multiple angles."

Service members kept their cameras off while the cameras were rolling in order not to give away any secrets about future episodes.

Pack said he looked for Harold Perrineau, who plays Michael in the series, because he hadn't seen Michael in awhile and was wondering when this

character would return.

Marines and Sailors had questions for Hallock about a recent plot twist, but not mentioning any specifics, the assistant location manager said exact plans were made for the four future episodes currently filming.

He also said the film crew and members of the military have a lot in common because both have to be mobile and self-sustained.

"We have our catering gear, all of our food, portable bathrooms, and working trucks," he explained. "We don't really rely on outside power; we've got our own generators."

"Lost" premiered Sept. 22, 2004, and is in its third season of filming on Oahu. The series is scheduled to return from hiatus Feb. 7 and will air new episodes continuously for 16 weeks.



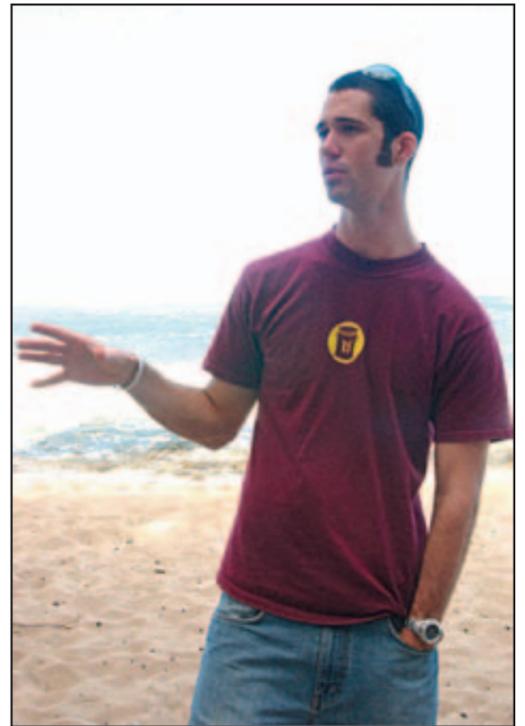
A set from "Lost" hides camera gear and other filming equipment needed for shooting scenes of the television series. In the episode, this area of the beach is used as a makeshift kitchen for the plane survivors who are living off salvaged food.



Seaman Erik Pack, air traffic controller, Marine Corps Air Facility, Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, sits outside one of the sets used on the television series "Lost." In the series, Sawyer (Josh Holloway) lives in this outdoor tent.



A set from the television series "Lost" sits empty on the beach on Oahu's North Shore. In the show, survivors of a plane crash attempt to construct a beach shelter similar to the structure pictured here. Recently, Marines and Sailors from Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, visited with the show's actors and crew on site.



Sean Hallock, assistant location manager, who has appeared in commercials and in an episode of "Baywatch Hawaii," recently gave service members from Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, a tour of the "Lost" set.



"Lost" crew members Noaeau Nakai (left) and Kanoa Dahlin prepare an outdoor set, using photographs that were taken from previous episodes as guides to ensure the props appear the same for each scene.

MCCS Briefs

www.mccshawaii.com

Kahuna's Recreation Center 254-7660/7661

The Crud is tonight's live entertainment starting at 8:30 p.m.

Monday Night Football pre-game begins at 6:30 p.m. Doors open at 6 p.m. Enjoy the game on Kahuna's multiple plasma screen televisions. Offered during game time only are 25-cent wings and beverage specials.

Staff NCO Club 254-5481

Wednesdays mean Wing Night starting at 4:30 p.m. Cost is 35 cents a wing for those who dine in. Rocker Room grill menu items are available at 5 p.m.

Mongolian Barbecue begins at 5 p.m. on Thursday, and all children in your party who are 12 and younger receive a free round of miniature golf at Tiki Island good for Thursday night from 6 to 10 p.m. only.

Fairways to Go is offered seven days a week from 8 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. Call 254-5592 to place an order.

The Officers' Club 254-7650

Today's Pasta Lunch Buffet is offered from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Watch the Army vs. Navy football game live tomorrow and enjoy continental breakfast at 8:30 a.m. Kick off is at 9:30 a.m. Halftime pupus include hot dogs, chili and rice, crudités, dip and chips. The cost is \$12.50 per member and \$16.50 for non-members.

Every Wednesday is Member Appreciation Night at the Kauai Bar from 5 to 7 p.m. Show your membership card for half-priced burgers and specially priced domestic and import beverages. Full prices return after 7 p.m.

Mongolian Barbecue is offered Wednesday and Friday at 5:30 p.m. in the Lanai Ballroom. Present your card for member discount. Reservations are recommended.

All Hands

Special Matinee Hours will be observed Sunday at the Base Theater. The matinee, "Open Season," will be shown at 12:30 p.m.

Registration for Drivers' Education is being held now through Jan. 5, 2007, at Youth Activities, Building 1090-B from 9 a.m. to 5:15 p.m. Six sessions are offered annually; the next session begins Jan. 6, 2007. Classes are available for both youths and adults.

Call 254-7610 for more information.

A Remembering Pearl Harbor Display featuring the Dec. 7, 1941, attacks is being held today through Dec. 15 at the Base Library.

Call 254-7624 for more information.

The Trim-a-Tree decorating event is being held now through Dec. 23 at the Base Library. Bring a homemade ornament to decorate the Base Library Christmas Tree and receive a sweet treat for your contribution.

Call 254-7624 for more information.

The Transition Assistance Program Seminar will be held Monday to Thursday in Building 279, second floor, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. The next TAP class will be conducted Jan. 8 to 11. This seminar is open to all hands within one year of separation.

Call 247-7790 for more information.

The Marine Corps Exchange will be open to men only for Men's Night on Tuesday from 6 to 10 p.m. Door prizes will be given away.

Call 254-3890 for more information.

Information, Tickets and Tours is sponsoring a Holiday Craft Fair at Camp Smith Thursday from 7:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The Officers' Club converts to a member's only facility in 2007

Laeleya S. Saludez

Marine Corps Community Services

After more than five decades of accepting members and nonmembers through its doors, The Officers' Club at Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, will be converting to a members-only establishment Jan. 1, 2007.

This shift in policy was first discussed at the Board of Directors quarterly meeting Oct. 13 when MCB Hawaii Deputy Commander Col. Mark Dungan recommended the change to the directors. Dungan said he believed the policy would serve the benefit of going back to the original intent of all officers' club establishments to be for members only.

"For a long time, clubs in the Marine Corps have been semiprivate," said Dungan. "But we believe this (conversion) is the right thing to do."

Dungan said a recommendation to convert The Officers' Club to members only was made by the board of directors to Commanding General Brig. Gen. Steven Hummer, with the intent of rewarding members for their loyalty and support, to promote club exclusivity and camaraderie and to offset lagging membership rolls. The recommendation was then staffed to major subordinate commands to include the Navy aboard MCB Hawaii, which concurred with the proposed policy. A decision paper was drafted Oct. 27 and approved by Gen. Hummer. The Club's constitution and bylaws were then amended to reflect the policy change effective Jan. 1, 2007.

"Membership is the responsibility of commissioned officers," said Dungan. "'O' clubs are not designed to be revenue generators, but to break even. At the same time, we want to ensure we continue to maintain strong membership so we can offer our valued members even more benefits."

Dungan said as of the first quarter of 2005, roughly 640 active duty Marines were members. As of the fourth quarter of 2006, the active duty membership dipped to roughly 400.

"This decline is not just due to deployment and rotation," said Col. Dungan. "In fact, the retirement community membership for our Club outnumbers current active duty membership. Also, twice as many active duty members that are currently eligible are not members of the club."

According to The Officers' Club Membership Coordinator Sandy Fa'au, the

membership roster has dropped sharply in the last two years: approximately 25 percent from 1,200 members in 2004 and 2005 to a little over 900 members in 2006.

Dungan said a members-only club is only fair to those who are long-standing members. Also, membership should be something eligible active duty officers, retirees, and government service and non-appropriated funded employees consider as a greater responsibility to the Marine Corps as a whole.

"In the past, it didn't matter whether or not an officer utilized the club on a regular basis or only on special events. Once you were eligible to join, you would join."

"This change is a positive event for the Officers' Club," said Club Manager Don Figueira. "A members-only club helps us run more efficiently because those dues go directly to the upkeep of the facility." Figueira explained that dues offset everything from swimming pool staffing, grounds upkeep, and overhead costs.

In fact, Figueira noted that at a recent Corps-wide Functionality Assessment Conference held in Fredericksburg, Va., in September, it was discussed how all Marine Corps membership clubs have been faced with a drastic decline in membership. Other armed forces have either done away with officers' and staff noncommissioned clubs altogether, or consolidated all ranks into one all-hands establishment.

"Quantico and Lejeune have consolidated all ranks into one club," said Dungan. "Pearl Harbor has no officers' club. Despite flagging membership Marine Corps-wide, we have the most successful officers' club here at K-Bay. We want to improve upon that success."

To underscore that success, the Officers' Club was awarded the 2006 Excellence in Food and Hospitality Award in Quantico, VA this August, an honor bestowed on benchmark MCCS activities that display high performance, customer satisfaction and meet set criteria.

Also, despite waning enrollment, a Marine Corps-wide survey conducted in August and September on the importance of membership, clubs indicated there is a desire to maintain membership clubs. According to Head of Food and Hospitality Carol Garland based in Quantico, Va., 35,000 surveys were sent to Marine Corps officers and staff NCOs and 7,975 responded. Of those respondents, 45 percent were officers and 55 percent were staff NCOs. Half who responded agreed

membership clubs offer a valuable military community service. More telling, 56 percent said the elimination of clubs would have an adverse effect on their quality of life.

Dungan emphasized that officers' club membership is not mandatory, such as Ward Rooms in the Navy. "You don't have to join the club if you don't want to," he said. "However, if you are not a member and you are eligible to join, beginning Jan. 1, 2007, you will not be able to use the facility."

Dungan said the sheer beauty of the location and facility is apparent to anyone who steps in the club the first time. "For the price of dues, this is the best deal in town for the best food."

"It is also a part of leadership," said Dungan. "If you have the support of your commanders and leaders to set the right example, their officers will also be members and join them at the Club."

Membership to The Officers' Club effective Jan. 1, 2007, will afford patrons the privilege of walking through the doors and using the Club's facilities and amenities. Members will have the ability to entertain in private dining rooms, bars and meeting rooms. The Club also organizes membership dinners, Sunday brunches, themed events, and holiday themed meals throughout the year. They are also able to use the Club pool and WIFI access, among other privileges. Figueira said more membership benefits are being discussed and looked at for future implementation.

If a potential member decides to join the Club by signing up for the Chase MasterCard, membership benefits include: Access to Marine Corps clubs around the world, exclusive member benefits, waived club dues on permanent change of station status, camaraderie with fellow Marines, refunds of your finance charges when you're engaged in a military campaign through the Blue Star Program, easy station transfer, and automatic Club dues billing to your account.

"We will handle this conversion respectfully and with care," said Figueira. "If someone enters the Club after Jan 1. (2007) who is not a member but is eligible to join, we will present them with a packet with all the information they need to become a member on their next visit."

Complete membership kits will be available at The Officers' Club beginning Jan. 1, 2007; however, any eligible nonmember can sign up anytime by filling out the written application or by calling The Officers' Club at 254-7650 for further assistance.

Movie review: 'Borat: Cultural Learnings of America for Make Benefit Glorious Nation of Kazakhstan'



Lance Cpl. Ryan Trevino

Combat Correspondent



Score: 3 out of 4 service stripes

Editors note: Each week Hawaii Marine's own film critic Lance Cpl. Ryan Trevino will provide readers with in-depth reviews and unbiased ratings of a film currently in theaters or one of the many classics of yesterday.

The rating system requires some explanation before you get started. If the film being reviewed is currently available for rent or

purchase it will be assigned a certain number of "microwaves" on a scale of one to four to rate its "reheat factor."

If the film being reviewed is in theaters, it will be assigned a certain number of service stripes on a scale from one to four.

In other words, the more microwaves or service stripes the film receives, the better and more entertaining it is to watch.

The film's complete title says it all – "Borat: Cultural Learnings of America for Make Benefit Glorious Nation of Kazakhstan." You read it right, that's not a typo. Trust that my editor needed plenty of convincing to put the red pen back into its holster after reading that.

Never once has the mere title of a film been funny enough to make me laugh, so I immediately made a beeline for the theater to see this movie that everybody was talking about. My high expectations were met in the first two minutes, and I still haven't stopped laughing. It is a great success.

Make way Ricky Bobby, "Borat" is hands-down the funniest movie of the year. Sacha Boren Cohen, a British comedian known for his character Ali G

from "Da Ali G Show," shows us again his versatility in the role of Borat Sagdiyev, a rude, misogynistic and politically incorrect Kazakh television personality, who has been sent to the "U.S. of A" to learn cultural lessons to "make benefit" his country.

This superbly produced mockumentary is not one-dimensional and has a joke for everyone. It not only caters to the "Jackass" crowd of moviegoers who crave physical comedy, it also has plenty to offer the Woody Allen lovers with its rich satirical innuendos.

The team of Cohen and director Larry Charles (of Seinfeld fame) makes for great chemistry. However, any contributions from the director were vastly overshadowed by Cohen's comic genius.

Since "Borat" invaded theaters nationwide a few weeks ago, many people appearing in the film have come forward with lawsuits, claiming Cohen breeched the contract they all signed before appearing on camera.

Those familiar with Cohen's style from "Da Ali G," know he gets most of his laughs when he gets into character and interviews various subject-matter

experts who are not "in" on the joke, therefore making them embarrass themselves because they don't know how to respond to the situation.

Not only were the people who appeared in the film upset, the entire country of Kazakhstan was offended by the way Cohen presented the country in the movie. You know something this controversial has to be good, and "Borat" is no exception.

Within the one and a half hours of pure comedy, Cohen as "Borat," punked a group of feminists, a humor coach, some gang members, guests of a high society dinner party, and some drunk college frat boys on his way to Los Angeles to find his one true love, Pamela Anderson, who he eventually finds and tries to court in the traditional Kazakh way by stuffing her into a bag.

The encounters and various obstacles Borat and his portly producer encounter along the way will keep you in stitches. That is – unless you are easily offended, because "Borat" spares no demographic area in this comic free-for-all.

See this movie as soon as you can – before it leaves the theater and you have to wait that long period before it hits the shelves.

MOVIE TIME

Prices: Friday and Saturday 7:15 p.m., shows are \$3 for adults and \$1.50 for children. Sunday matinee is shown at 2 p.m. Shows are \$2 for adults and \$1 for children. Evening showings on Sunday and Wednesday are at 6:30 p.m. and late shows are shown Friday and Saturday at 9:45 p.m. Cost is \$2 for adults and \$1.50 for children.

For ticket pricing, the Base Theater Box Office defines an adult as a patron 12 and older and defines a child as a patron from 6 to 11. Children 5 and younger are admitted free of charge. Parents must purchase tickets for R-rated movies in person at the box office for children 16 and younger. Patrons must present their military identification card when purchasing tickets. Call 254-7642 for recorded information.

Sneak Preview Policy: One hour and 45 minutes prior to the movie, tickets will be issued to first priority patrons waiting in line, then second and third priority patrons.

In an effort to prevent piracy, the following security measures will be enforced on base for sneak preview screenings: bag checks, confiscation of cameras or cell phones with picture taking capability (items will be returned after screening), magnetometer wand, audience scanning with night vision goggles during screening.

The Base Theater and film companies thank you in advance for your cooperation and hope you will enjoy the show. For recorded information, call the Base Theater at 254-7642.

School for Scoundrels (PG13)
The Guardian (PG13)
Open Season (PG)
All the King's Men (PG13)
Open Season (PG)
School for Scoundrels (PG13)
The Guardian (PG13)
Flicka (PG)
The Departed (R)

Today at 7:15 p.m.
Today at 9:45 p.m.
Saturday at 6:30 p.m.
Saturday at 9:45 p.m.
Sunday at 12:30 p.m.
Sunday at 6:30 p.m.
Wednesday at 6:30 p.m.
Friday at 7:15 p.m.
Friday at 9:45 p.m.

How to celebrate holidays away from home

Deb Trzcinski

LIFELines

The absence of family members and loved ones is deeply felt at times of family tradition and celebration. Memories of grandma's cornbread stuffing at Thanksgiving, Dad's great birthday surprises, and, of course, the traditional December and January holidays, all live forever as they are commemorated each year.

But military life often means being separated from those you love while traditions, holidays, birthdays, and other special occasions continue to show up on the calendar. With this separation comes the opportunity to carry on fond traditions as well as establishing those of your own.

Something Old; Something New

If family traditions or recipes bring a bit of home to your house, keep them going. In fact, a suggested activity for family members might be a collection of recipes passed down through generations. But, if you secretly wish never to see giblet gravy again, this is your chance to remove it from the holiday menu. If change doesn't come easy for you, try a few new things each year. Be careful not to overdo it. A holiday feast may be too much for a family of three.

Reach Out

Chances are you're not the only folks in town who can't make it home for a special occasion. Reaching out is

a great remedy for homesickness. Don't wait for an invitation. Instead, ask around to see if neighbors or friends would be interested in a get-together.

"Ask your holiday guests beforehand if they have family traditions or recipes they would like to bring. When your guests participate in providing some of the holiday meal, this means less work for you and gives them the opportunity to share something from home," said Carol, a military spouse for 25 years (and counting). For those living in another country, she suggests inviting someone from that culture to join you. "Most people are intrigued with other customs, and it also seems to renew your own enthusiasm when you share," she adds.

A child's birthday can be celebrated with other families as well. If you're having a cookout in conjunction with a party, consider inviting single people to join you. This gives them the opportunity to get out of the barracks or off the ship and enjoy a family atmosphere.

Staying Connected

These days, it's easier than ever to keep the lines of communication open with those left behind. The advent of e-mail, digital cameras, and live online video puts a connection to home as close as your computer. Encourage grandparents to enter the world of electronic mail so they can stay in close contact and receive pic-

tures instantly. Computer classes for seniors are offered at senior centers and through continuing education programs around the country.

Consider that while you may be longing for home, your family misses you as well. A great gift idea is to make a video or photo album to send them. Highlight your favorite spots in town (a local park where the children play, your jogging route, favorite beach or workplace) as well as a tour of your house, garden and neighborhood. This ties them to you with a visual image of your daily life. Ask loved ones to do the same for you.

Made With Love

Search for something special that your children can make to send as gifts. Grandma will love having a physical reminder of her grandchild, and it will strengthen the child's memory of her. Choose items for everyday use, such as coffee mugs or key chains that your child can personalize.

Invite children from the neighborhood over for a holiday cookie-making party (all holidays are applicable). Bake plain, cut-out cookies ahead of time, and give lots of options for decorating. Allow the children to take the cookies home as a gift for the whole family.

Sending Gifts

Purchasing gifts for multiple family members can become much more stressful with the notion of having to

buy them early, find boxes, pack the gifts up, and ship them off. To help eliminate this burden, consider a few options:

- Suggest that those at home include your family in a drawing of names for Christmas gifts at Thanksgiving. This eliminates mass mailings and gives everyone plenty of time to make a purchase and have it shipped.
- Send gift certificates either by mail or the Internet.
- Purchase small things, such as jewelry, linens, or handheld toys to mail, versus large, bulky items.
- Shop early! Put a little money away to hit the after-Christmas sales, and store these gifts for the following year. You can have everything wrapped and ready to go well before the season sets in.

Cut Your List

There are other ways to deal with the holiday bustle. "I cut out sending gifts to everyone with the exception of parents and the children's godparents," said Martha, mother of five and wife of a retired Navy captain. She explained to loved ones that she was simplifying her life and hoped they would do the same by removing her from their list of people to buy for. "That helped with the budget and the stress level."

Mailing Tips

When shipping items, be sure to give yourself plenty of time. Check in

advance with shipping companies such as UPS, Federal Express, and the U.S. Postal Service to get a safe timeframe for your desired delivery date.

Shipments from overseas locations may need a month or more to get to their destination, especially in peak seasons. Packages coming into the United States may be subject to customs checks. Investigate potential restrictions before purchasing gifts overseas.

When You're Far, Far Away

Overseas military communities tend to have a bond unlike any other. People within your command or your neighbors become a stand-in family. Special occasions or not — there's often something to celebrate as an excuse to get together and make the best of being away from home.

A group of families once stationed on Guam recall the celebration of a particular Thanksgiving in post-typhoon conditions. A storm ravaged the island the night before, which meant there was no electricity or running water. Everyone survived, and they gathered to eat pre-cooked turkey and trimmings, re-heated on Sterno stoves and charcoal grills. They didn't realize at the time that what seemed to be a hardship would become one of their most memorable celebrations.

Hold on to your traditions, create a few new ones, and instill great memories in the hearts of those around you.

Nearly 250 Marines serving in Iraq choose to reenlist

Cpl. Luke Blom

2nd Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment

HADITHA, Iraq — Sergeant Frank Carrillo III said he was about 60 percent sure he wanted to commit four more years to the

Marine Corps, but he still had unanswered questions like where would he go, what billet would he get, what kind of bonus did he rate?

Carrillo, a radio operator with the Hawaii-based 2nd

Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment, got the answers he needed and was one of nearly 250 Marines who reenlisted in Iraq (a combat zone), thanks to a visit from a team of military occupational specialty monitors

from Headquarters Marine Corps.

Monitors are Marines who act as the "gate keepers" for their respective MOS field, deciding who goes to which geographical duty station and which Marines get certain special duty assignments available in the Marine Corps.

They also advise Marines on options concerning reenlistment.

A team of monitors visited Marines at their headquarters in Haditha, Iraq, Nov. 17. All together, the team spoke with more than 1,500 Marines throughout the Al Anbar province during their three-week tour, where they visited Marines from 1st Marine Expeditionary Force.

"Instead of dealing with paperwork and talking to people on the phone, we're actually able to look the Marines in the face and tell them what we can do for them," said Maj. Sean Charney, the officer-in-charge of the monitor team.

But the success of the

recent boost of reenlistments spawned from the monitors' trips is also credited to each unit's career retention specialist, according to Charney. Career retention specialists are Marines designated to coordinate the reenlistment process and ensure every Marine in an individual command receives pertinent information about their careers so that they can make an informed decision about whether or not to reenlist.

"The career retention specialists are able to talk to the Marines about the how's and why's of reenlisting," said Charney. "The monitors actually make the decisions for their field, so they're able to answer Marine's questions much more concretely."

The monitors' trip to the Al Anbar province allowed them to have some face-to-face time with Marines currently deployed to western Iraq, where they are providing security to the region, said Charney. They were able to directly answer

Marines' questions concerning reenlistment incentives, bonuses, future duty stations, special duties, lateral moves into different specialty fields, and reenlistments.

"That (face-to-face time) pays huge dividends, because we can actually make future assignments for the Marines right there on the spot," said Charney, a 39-year-old native of Lincoln Park, N.J.

The monitors' visit comes in the midst of one of the best years for retention the Marine Corps has seen since the beginning of Operation Iraqi Freedom, said Staff Sgt. Hector M. De La Pena, career retention specialist, 2/3.

For example, the infantry MOS fields — such as mortar men and machine gunners — usually don't close for reenlistments until sometime between February and April. Military occupational specialty fields close for reenlistment when a target number of Marines reenlist in that particular field.

See REENLIST, B-6

ON THE MENU

AT ANDERSON HALL

Friday

Lunch
Sour braten
Jaegerschnitzel
Hot potato salad
Tossed green rice
Simmered cabbage
Simmered asparagus
Simmered sauerkraut
Boston cream pie
Chocolate chip cookies
Pineapple upside down cake
Vanilla/chocolate creme pudding
Strawberry/raspberry gelatin
Specialty bar: Southern Meal

Dinner

Roast pork loin
Mahi mahi
Mashed potatoes
Wild rice
Simmered broccoli
Corn on the cob
Applesauce
Chicken gravy
Desserts same as lunch

Saturday

Dinner
Herbed rock cornish hen
Country fried steak
Rice pilaf
Candied yams
Herbed green broccoli
Simmered carrots
Vegetable gravy
Chicken gravy
Pumpkin pie
Chocolate cookie
Easy chocolate cake w/chocolate butter cream frosting
Vanilla/chocolate creme pudding
Strawberry/raspberry gelatin

Sunday

Dinner
Yankee pot roast
Baked ham
Mashed potatoes
Candied sweet potatoes w/marshmallows
Simmered mixed vegetables
Simmered pinto beans
Vegetable gravy
Dutch apple pie
Brownies
Lemon cake w/lemon cream frosting

Vanilla/chocolate creme pudding
Cherry/lime gelatin

Monday

Lunch
Baked meatloaf
Creole pork chops
Lyonnais potatoes
Noodles Jefferson
Boston baked beans
Simmered peas & carrots
Tomato gravy
Cheese cake w/strawberry topping
Cherry pie
Sugar cookies
Peanut butter cake w/peanut butter cream frosting
Vanilla/chocolate creme pudding
Orange/raspberry gelatin
Specialty bar: Pasta

Dinner

Russian turkey stew
Baked fresh fish w/garlic butter
Steamed rice
Simmered corn
Brussels sprouts parmesan

Cream gravy

Tuesday

Lunch
Beef sukiyaki
Southern fried chicken
Egg foo young
Chinese fried egg rolls
Steamed rice
Fried rice
Fried cabbage
Simmered carrots
Chow mein noodles
Sweet and sour sauce
Lemon meringue pie
Lemon cookies
Strawberry shortcake
Vanilla/chocolate creme pudding
Strawberry/lime gelatin
Specialty bar: Taco & Deli

Dinner

Creole macaroni
Baked turkey & noodles
Mashed potatoes
Grilled cheese sandwich
Simmered green beans
Cauliflower au gratin

Turkey gravy
Desserts same as lunch

Wednesday

Lunch
Bar-b-que spareribs
Country style steak
Red beans and rice
Baked macaroni & cheese
Southern style collard greens
Simmered corn on the cob
Cream gravy
Apple pie
Brownies
Pineapple upside down cake
Vanilla/chocolate creme pudding
Orange/raspberry gelatin
Specialty bar: Hot dog & sausage

Dinner

Savory baked chicken
Beef pot pie
Boiled egg noodles
Mashed potatoes
Southern style squash
Simmered peas w/mushrooms
Chicken gravy
Desserts same as lunch

Thursday

Lunch
Baked lasagna
Veal parmesan
Oven glo potatoes
Simmered carrots
Italian mixed vegetables
Tomato gravy
Garlic toast
Cherry pie
Oatmeal raisin cookies
Marble cake w/chocolate cream frosting
Chocolate/vanilla creme pudding
Orange/strawberry gelatin
Specialty Bar: Deli & hot sandwich of the day

Dinner

Chili macaroni
Simmered corned beef
Parsley buttered potatoes
Grilled cheese sandwich
Glazed carrots
Fried cabbage w/bacon
Brown gravy
Mustard sauce
Desserts same as lunch

Marine walks across three countries for freedom

Lance Cpl. James Green

Marine Corps Recruiting Depot San Diego

MARINE CORPS RECRUIT DEPOT SAN DIEGO — Private First Class Michael A. Atem, Platoon 2033, Company "H," graduated Nov. 17 as a Marine just like the Marines by his side.

For the last three months they have been through the same challenges and overcame many obstacles as a team, but their pasts took place in two different worlds.

Atem was born in Bor, Sudan, a country where killing was a resolution of problems between people in his community and death was not hidden from the members of his village.

In 1983, a civil war broke out in Sudan, the North Arabs against the South Christians, and continued for four years. Atem, 8 years old at the time, was struck with a serious situation: Stay and die, or leave his home and live.

He made a decision to leave with his cousin, along with 16,000 other Bor natives who fled the death penalty set in place by their country's war.

Atem, a Christian, walked for more than two months to Ethiopia surviving on wild fruit and sleeping on roadsides every night. After arriving in Ethiopia, he made the country his new home. He remained there for four years before another war broke out.

The year 1991 brought more horrific battles to Atem. Ethiopia was at war with Eritrea. Once again he was forced out of his home for fear of his safety.

"They were killing everyone," said Atem, who is now 27. "We didn't know if the new government after the war would have us killed or not, so we left."

After leaving the second country, he and the other refugees on this journey made their way back to Sudan. They did not get very far before they were attacked by the Eritrean, where many of the refugees were killed.

The survivors of the assault continued on their quest for a safe haven and found it in Sudan. Although the war was over, the small town in which they came to live had no source of food. They lived on wild fruits and fish from a nearby river for three months.

When Atem finally felt he had left the wars of his country far behind, he was again brought back to the reality that the unstable nation he lived in was under attack of the Arabs.

In 1992, Arab warplanes bombed the town Atem called home, which prompted him to leave Sudan for a second time.

"The town was captured by the Arabs soon after we left," said Atem. "We were lucky to get out alive."

Now on his way to Kenya, he came across an American Red Cross convoy that picked him up and brought him to the village of Magaos, located on the border of Kenya and Sudan. While there, they were attacked by the natives, and five of the travelers were killed.

When Atem made it to Kenya, at the age of 13, he attended school and finished up his primary and secondary education. It was at school when he was contacted by the U.S. embassy in Kenya and interviewed to come to America for a better life.

After completing the interview and being selected for the trip, he was given \$850 for a plane ticket to Las Vegas, a random city chosen by the U.S. Embassy, which he was to pay back within three years. Now in the U.S. at age 22, he got a job at Burger King and paid his tab in less than one year.

Coming to America meant escaping the wars in Sudan, but he faced the consequence of being separated from his cousin who received a ticket to Michigan.

Atem went to Michigan to reunite with his cousin after paying his debt, where he attended Lansing Community College and earned his Associates Degree in molecular biology.

While he was in college, Atem was contacted by an Army recruiter who told him how he could benefit and help others by joining the military. He researched the military branches and contacted a Marine Corps recruiter, who set everything up for him to attend recruit training here.

Atem said he joined the military to help those who cannot help themselves. If it was not for the people who helped him leave Sudan when he was young, he



Lance Cpl. James Green

Private First Class Michael Atem salutes the American flag as "Retreat" plays on the depot, and the flag is lowered.

would not be here today.

He enlisted in the Marines as an accounting and supply clerk and was assigned to Company E. After being dropped for training for stress fractures, he was in the Medical Rehabilitation Platoon for three weeks before resuming training with Company H.

"Because of his broken English, it was hard for him to understand what was going on and why he was dropped," said Gunnery Sgt. Christopher M. Glocke, drill instructor, Platoon 2033. "He is a good recruit though. He may not be the loudest, but he wants to be here."

Aside from this slight setback, Atem said he has learned discipline, leadership and is more confident in everything he does.

Atem's next stop is Marine Combat Training at the School of Infantry in Camp Pendleton, Calif., where he will learn all the basic combat skills he will need to be successful in the Marine Corps.



Lance Cpl. James Green

Private First Class S. D. Mandall shares water with Atem during weapons turn-in. This camaraderie is encouraged in recruit training.

Budgeting tips for annual Holiday shopping

Brandi Givens

LIFELines

For many military families, financial stress goes hand-in-hand with holiday shopping. There are ways to alleviate some of this annual anxiety with a little careful planning.

Consider Opening a Holiday Savings Account

Many financial institutions offer accounts designed for short-term saving. These accounts are versatile; money can be transferred automatically or manually at the member's convenience.

It's never too late to start saving. Perhaps next year you might want to take advantage of a long-term savings effort. By opening an account in January and saving just \$50 a month. By November you will have saved \$500 plus interest.

Make a Holiday Budget

One way to keep spending under control is to create a holiday budget. It is wise to

base this budget on cash available so that credit card bills aren't overwhelming in January. Making a budget can be broken into three simple steps:

- Decide what your total holiday spending budget will be for the year.
- Make a detailed list of holiday expenses.
- Allot a portion of your budget to each expense.

Once a holiday budget is made, don't be discouraged by what may look like small amounts. There are many ways to save money while still giving wonderful gifts.

Coupons and Discounts

Below are some ideas for saving money on gifts.

- *Shop early:* Spread gift-buying through the year to ease financial stress and to take advantage of off-season sales. Be sure to remember whose gifts have already been purchased by storing everything in one large container, complete with a check-off list taped inside the lid.
- *Search through mail and newspapers:* Retailers often circulate coupons, such as

\$10 off a \$50 purchase. Add this discount to items which are already on sale, and you'll get a great deal.

- *Shop the Web:* Most online retailers don't charge tax. Many even advertise free shipping and will send gifts directly to loved ones. For online specials and coupons, check out Flamingoworld.com.

- *Shop at eBay.com:* Gifts can often be found for much less than you would pay retail. Just remember to check shipping charges before bidding.

Homemade Gifts

Here are some suggestions for homemade gifts that can cost very little but will please your family and friends a lot.

- *Scrapbooks:* A scrapbook filled with photos is an irreplaceable keepsake. Start this project early and watch for sales on supplies at your local craft stores.

- *Baked goods:* Buy holiday tins from any discount store and fill them with homemade cookies and candy from treasured family recipes.
- *Mix in a jar:* Fill pretty jars with the dry

ingredients for making cocoa, coffee drinks, tea, soups, or cookies. Complete the gift by tying the recipe card to the jar with a festive ribbon.

- *Portraits:* Major department stores offer great online coupons for portrait packages. If you want to save more money, have a friend take a nice snapshot of you; for less than \$3, Wal-Mart will enlarge that snapshot to 8 by 10. Throw in a nice but inexpensive frame, and you have a great gift for family members.

- *Holiday craft shows:* During the holiday shopping season, bases often sponsor craft fairs where local vendors often sell inexpensive handmade items. Check your base newspaper for dates and times.

- *Search the Web:* The Internet is filled with sites that contain countless ideas for homemade gifts. Start your search with iVillage.com, Home and Garden Television, Allrecipes.com, and Make-stuff.com.

Remember, no matter what your budget is for the holidays, you can avoid financial stress and make the holidays special for your family and friends.

Senior enlisted advisor gets new role

Cpl. Rick Nelson

Combat correspondent

Service members in any branch of the service will face many obstacles that they must overcome to continue on to the best of their ability during their tour in the military.

Senior Chief Petty Officer Eric S. Anderson, senior enlisted advisor, 3rd Dental Battalion, Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, said he wanted to leave the small-town life and see the world, so he joined the Navy in June 1987 and was sent to San Diego for basic training.

"My parents were very proud when I joined but, at the same time, realized I wouldn't be around very often," said Anderson.

He said that even though he joined, he didn't expect to be in the Navy after his first enlistment, but admitted that he was interested in becoming a Navy SEAL (the acronym for sea, air and land and also the name for the members of the Naval Special Warfare unit who are trained for unconventional warfare.)

"At first, I wanted to be a Navy SEAL," said the native of Coquille, Ore. "That's the reason I became a (hospital) corpsman. It was wide open for SEALs, which made my chances better."

Anderson completed the physical screening for the SEAL program but was disqualified during the medical portion due to color deficiency in his vision.

"After I found out I wasn't going to be able to be a SEAL, I went back to being a corpsman and traveled around quit a bit," he said.

Anderson has been deployed to Guam, Korea, Australia and the Philippines and served in operations

Desert Shield and Desert Storm.

"Desert Shield and Storm were the most miserable 10 months in my life, but I wouldn't trade it for the world," said Anderson. "I have so many memories from there that made being miserable worth it."

Anderson said he spent 14 of the 19 years he has been in the Navy assigned to Marine Corps units where he worked primarily with Marines.

"I grew up very outdoors oriented and did things like hunting and fishing, so I love being with the Marines," said the 38-year-old.

Speaking about his newest assignment at 3rd Dental Battalion, Anderson admitted that it is very different from what he is used to. Just recently, the Navy combined the hospital corpsman and dental technician job ratings into one – the hospital corpsman rating.

"I'm actually a corpsman and not what used to be called a dental technician," he said. "My main job basically will be the training and mentoring of enlisted Sailors and as advisor to the commanding officer on enlisted matters."

Being in a leadership position makes you see the whole picture instead of just a little piece of the pie, he added.

"I've been put in a leadership position for a job I'm not really familiar with, but leadership is leadership. I don't need to know how to take care of teeth – just the Sailors who work on them," said the sea-service veteran. "It's more about taking care of your people and pushing them to do their job correctly and to go as far as they possibly can."

Anderson said the end of his military career is right around the corner, but he is unsure as to what he wants



Cpl. Rick Nelson

Senior Chief Petty Officer Eric S. Anderson, senior enlisted leader, 3rd Dental Battalion, Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, poses for a picture outside the building he works in. Anderson has been assigned to Marine Corps units 14 out of the 19 years he has been in the Navy and said he loves working with Marines.

to do when he retires from the Navy.

"I'm thinking about opening up a gym or becoming a teacher, once my time in the Navy has ended," he said. "I've had a great time in the Navy."

"In the beginning I thought I was going to do one enlistment and go back to work in my hometown. I've been on terminal leave twice already but decided to stay in due to promotions and my CO (commanding officer) joking around with me – telling me if I don't reenlist he will send a squad out to find me."

Aside from the good times

Anderson had during his career, he said he also has a few regrets.

"The one thing I regret most is that I haven't gotten to spend as much time with my kids as I would have liked to," said the father of three. "I've missed too many birthdays and Christmases because of deployments."

Anderson, who has two daughters and one son, said his children are the most important things in his life.

"My daughter was born while I was in Desert Storm. I had no clue (that she had been born), until my

sergeant major pulled me out of line to get steak and congratulated me," he said.

"I had no clue why I was being congratulated, and then the CO showed me a letter stating that my daughter had been born almost three days before. Throughout the whole time the sergeant major was trying to talk me into naming my daughter Marina Cora, but I decided Victoria was better."

Once his career in the Navy comes to an end, Anderson plans to make up for lost time with his children.

American Indian thrilled to be in Hawaii

Christine Cabalo

Photojournalist

Born and raised in Chinle, Ariz., it was not a surprise to her Navajo community when Matilda Montoya announced she'd be joining the Marine Corps.

Now a sergeant, Montoya enrolled in the Delayed Entry Program before officially joining the Corps in August 2002.

Although she said she initially wanted to be a combat engineer so she could deploy and do interesting field work abroad, the Marine Corps placed her in a totally different field.

"When they test you for what type of job you'd be good at, I was placed in logistics," Montoya said.

Today she works for the Supply Department at Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron 24 aboard Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay. Working in accounting, she tracks funds for parts, flight equipment, and fuel for all the aviation squadrons assigned to MALS-24. As an aviation supply clerk, her job is to make sure squadrons aren't overspending their budgets on needed sup-

plies for helicopters, planes and other aviation vehicles.

"In Hawaii, I'm in charge of looking out for three Marine squadrons and three Navy squadrons," said Montoya.

For six months – from February to July – Montoya got her chance for field work abroad when she deployed to Iraq. Working in supply, the 22-year-old noted that during her tour of duty in Iraq, working hours were strenuous. She was on duty for 12 hours at a time for six days a week.

"When our work was done," said Montoya, "we'd go out and help the other shops. We'd ask them if they needed help with reports or with delivering gear."

Though she said her work in Iraq was interesting, Montoya said she enjoys being stationed in Hawaii. Since she spent elementary and high school years on the Navajo reservation, coming to Hawaii was something she always wanted to do.

"Who doesn't want to come to Hawaii and be paid to go?" asked Montoya. "Some people save up their whole lives just to come here and visit. I love it. I love the beaches and the

mountains, and the weather is really nice."

Relaxing at North Beach and just driving through the Hawaiian countryside are some of the ways Montoya unwinds after work. She said she loves being connected to the natural beauty of Oahu.

Although she thinks Hawaii is beautiful, she does occasionally miss the comforts of home. Montoya said it was difficult to practice her Native American church faith because of the shortage of other NAC service members in the area. Although she is able to engage in daily prayers, Montoya said she stays connected to her religion by staying in contact with her family at home. Recently, she met other Navajo service members who are assigned to K-Bay and has been spending time with them.

"We made Navajo tacos and played Texas Hold 'Em," said Montoya. "There's this sense of camaraderie and being home ..."

Montoya said she didn't expect to be working in accounting, but it is a job that has been easy to learn.

At the end of her enlist-

ment, Montoya said she plans to continue to serve her country by working in the government. She expects to graduate from ITT Technical Institute in

the fall of 2008 with a degree in criminal justice and would ultimately like to go to work for the FBI or CIA.

"I'd like to keep giving back

to the government," she said. "I want to work in a job that would be protecting the country but at a lower level than the military."



Christine Cabalo

Sergeant Matilda Montoya, aviation supply clerk, Supply Department, Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron 24, Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, stands in front of dozens of spreadsheet booklets that list the spending habits of aviation squadrons aboard the base.

Aikahi Elementary students 'Turkey Trot' Marine Corps style

Cpl. Rick Nelson

Combat Correspondent

Kailua, Hawaii — Seven Marines assigned to Headquarters Battalion, Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, volunteered to assist the students at Aikahi Elementary School, Kailua, with their annual "Turkey Trot," which is held each year before the students leave for their holiday break.

"The students love interacting with the Marines and going through an obstacle course the Marines put together for the students," said Randy Scoville, vice principal, Aikahi Elementary School. "Once they crawled through the camouflage netting, they did a pumpkin relay, went down the new inflatable slide, and got their face's painted by the Marines."

According to Scoville, the student's favorite part of the day was having the Marines paint their faces – camouflage fashion.

"The face painting makes them feel like they're more like the Marines or warriors," the Kailua native said. "When the Marines come out to the school they become heroes to these kids."

Lance Cpl. Tony S. Thomasson, pay

clerk, Finance Office, HQBN, said he wishes Marines would have come to his school while he was in elementary school.

"I love helping out these kids," said the native of Tampa Bay, Fla. "It's good for young kids to have positive role models in their life to look up to."

Thomasson also said the most rewarding part of the day was when he got the opportunity to eat lunch with the students.

"Once we got our lunch and walked into the cafeteria all of the students were coming up to us begging us to sit with them or at their table," said the 20-year-old. "It's things like that, that make (volunteering) all worth it."

During the Turkey Trot, students and Marines seemed to be enjoying themselves and had big smiles on their faces, said Scoville.

"This type of event builds a relationship with the Marine Corps that I hope lasts forever," he added. "This is an experience the students will not forget and could possibly aspire some of the students to follow in the footsteps of the Marines."

The Turkey Trot is held each year before the students leave for their holiday break.



Cpl. Rick Nelson

Lance Corporal Tony S. Thomasson, pay clerk, Finance Office, Headquarters Battalion, Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, paints the face of a student at Aikahi Elementary School in Kailua during their annual "Turkey Trot," where students complete various obstacles while interacting with Marines.

REENLIST, from B-3

This year the Marine Corps may have to close out the infantry fields as soon as the end of this month due to the high rate of retention, said De La Pena, a 30-year-old from Chicago.

Of the 40 Marines in 2/3 who are eligible for reenlistment, eight actually reenlisted during the monitors' visit, according to De La Pena. That's a significant jump from the average of a few reenlistments per month for the battalion, said De La Pena.

While no one on the monitors' team seemed to have pinned down the reason for such a reenlistment boom this year, De La Pena, a forward security element platoon sergeant for 2/3, said his theory as to why a high number of Marines are committing four more years to the Marine Corps is because they are gung-ho.

For Carrillo, and many Marines like him, having that face-to-face time with his monitor meant getting answers to the questions he had before deciding whether or not to reenlist. He said it made all the difference in the world in helping him decide.

"I was able to sit down with my monitor and ask my questions and express my concerns, and get the answers straight from the horse's mouth," said Carrillo, a radio operator and 22-year-old native of Wheatley, Calif.

After a 30-minute conversation, Carrillo and his monitor came to an agreement.

"When I came to the fleet, I felt like I didn't know anything in my field," said Carrillo, who has been guaranteed a spot as a communications school instructor after this seven-month deployment. "I've learned a lot since then, and I want to go back to the (communications) school and teach Marines what they'll need to know in the fleet."

Along with the tangible rewards of reenlisting – thousands of dollars in bonuses, the choice of future duty station and job – there were also the intangible benefits like beginning a new chapter in the Marine Corps by reenlisting in a combat zone, said Gunnery Sgt. Charles A. Walker, infantry monitor and a 30-year-old from Hendersonville, N.C.

"The idea that you reenlisted in (in a combat zone), and right afterwards geared up to go on a combat patrol will be a great memory for a lot of guys out here," said Walker.

For every story like Carrillo's, there are many Marines who are not sure if they want to stay in the Corps for another four years.

"I was about 50-50 before I

talked with the monitor. Now I'm leaning more toward staying in, but I still have some thinking to do," said Sgt. Joseph Roy, scout sniper and 22-year-old native of Gladstone, Mich.

"Each monitor assists Marines in making the right decision, whether it is for them to stay in or get out. They help build a path for

the individual Marines and make sure they're moving in the right direction for their future," said Charney.

Roy was told that he would get more than \$30,000 in bonus money, which would be tax free if he reenlists in Iraq.

Service members' pay while serving in Iraq is tax exempt – a benefit they

receive serving in a combat zone.

But Roy did have a couple of questions the monitor could not immediately answer – questions about the standard of living and educational opportunities that would be made available if he decided to reenlist.

"I wanted a couple things that the monitor couldn't

guarantee," said Roy.

With aspirations to live off base at his next duty station and attend the eight-week Marine Corps Martial Arts Instructor-Trainer Course, Quantico, Va., Roy said he is still unsure whether or not he wants to continue his Marine Corps career.

Whether or not a Marine

decided to reenlist or just ask some questions, the monitors considered the opportunity to talk with the Marines on the front lines a great way to take care of their own, said Walker.

"After talking with all these Marines," said Walker, "I'm confident that we're keeping the finest, best Marines around."